

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18 and 21-37 are pending, with claims 1, 8, 16, 22 and 29 being independent. Claims 9, 14, 17, 19 and 20 have been canceled, claims 1, 8 and 16 have been amended, and claims 24-37 have been added.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claim 20 is directed to allowable subject matter. In view of this indication, claim 16 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 20.

Claims 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18 and 21 have been rejected under section 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Claims 8 and 16 have been amended to recite a driver circuit region "having at least one of a shift register circuit, a NAND circuit, a lever shifter circuit and a buffer circuit[.]" This amendment is believed to address the section 112 rejection.

Claims 1 and 8 also have been amended to recite an orientating film formed on the sealing member. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, at page 8, line 19 of the application.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10, 15, 16, 18 and 21 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Misawa in view of Lebrun, Castleberry and Adachi.

With respect to claims 1 and 8, and the claims that depend from them, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because neither Misawa, Lebrun, Castleberry, Adachi, nor any combination of the four describes or suggests an orientating film formed on the sealing member, as recited in each of claims 1 and 8. For example, Lebrun, which the Examiner appears to rely upon as describing the sealing member, merely shows a sealing bead 4 that is positioned between plates 3 and 5, and provides no indication that a film could be formed on the bead 4.

As noted above, claim 16 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 20. Accordingly, applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 for at least this reason.

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Claims 2, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 19 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Misawa in view of Lebrun, Castleberry, Adachi and Wakai. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Wakai does not remedy the failure of the other references to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims.

Like claims 1 and 8, new independent claims 22 and 29 recite an orientating film formed on the sealing member. Accordingly, claims 22 and 29, as well as their dependent claims 23-28 and 30-37, are allowable for the reasons discussed above. In addition, claims 22 and 29 also recite that the sealing member is not in contact with one of the pair of the substrates. As this feature is also lacking from the cited references, claims 22-37 are allowable for this additional reason.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a \$664 check for excess claim fees (\$244) and the Petition for Extension of Time fee (\$420). Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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